

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
February 26, 2018

ROLL CALL: Pat Holman, Russ Evans, Joel Profitt, Skate Pierce, Belinda Campbell, Brian Kolstad, John Murray. Mayor Lawrence excused, Mayor Pro Tem Pierce presiding.

STAFF: Chief Hastings, Chief Cooper, PWD Poole, Clerk Austin, Attorney Richardson.

AGENDA CHANGES: Add Item D under New Business – Authorize date change for Interlocal Agreement on Solid Waste.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the February 12, 2018 Regular Meeting were approved as distributed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. From the Public:

Alice White – 742 13th Street

Brian Shinn – 929 Beachview – County Commissioner, on behalf of County. Commissioner Shinn advised the Council of an upcoming Town Hall meeting. There will be a presentation on Stormwater and public opinion on financing and building new a new jail. The meeting will be February 22, 2018 at 6:30pm.

B. From Mayor: Mayor Lawrence excused on illness.

C. From Staff or Employees: PWD Poole spoke regarding the 6th & Chestnut patching project that was mentioned in a letter in the Lewiston Tribune. He advised that as soon as it is available, the area will be fixed with hot mix asphalt.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance/Admin: Councilmember Murray reported the bills were reviewed and approved for payment. Total expenditures for the February 26, 2018 period of \$177,787.73. MOTION BY PIERCE/EVANS to approve the bills as read.

Public Safety: Councilmember Campbell reported that Jock Pring wanted to address the committee regarding crime statistics in the City of Clarkston. He presented graphs depicting that our crime rates are higher than those surrounding us and also higher than the average national crime rates. He would like some feedback on what we, the City can do to lower crime and what he can do as a private citizen and business owner to help make Clarkston safer. One of the questions that Mr. Pring addressed was consolidation of services with the City of Asotin, Asotin County, City of Clarkston and possibly at a later date, with the City of Lewiston and Nez Perce County.

Police Chief Hastings suggested that the numbers tend to be a little skewed as a new reporting system was enacted in 2012. For example, a group of 4 kids takes a vehicle for a joy ride. It used to be that that would be counted as a single crime. Now, each kid involved is counted as a separate crime. Instead of one, you now have four crimes committed. Another thing the residents of Clarkston should know is that most of Clarkston's crime is property crime as opposed to violent crime. Theft is Clarkston's primary crime and a large percentage of those committed are shopliftings. There was an increase in shoplifting in 2012 and those numbers have remained high. The reporting is also based on population numbers of Clarkston, not on the amount of population at any given time during the day. Again, as an example, our little city grows from a population of 7700 during the day to as much as 30,000 and even more during the holiday season. It's unusual

for a city of our size to have two big retail stores. It is also worth noting that our crime clearance rate is higher than the national average.

Public Works: Councilmember Pierce reported that The National Fitness Campaign has discussed with us a fitness court placed in one of our parks. It's a multi-modal exercise facility for a variety of citizens. It covers all ages and many ability levels. Cost is \$120,000 and comes with a \$10,000 grant. We would need to look for private contributions, or possibly include it in our FLAP grant application. We will wait to establish our Board of Commissioners for parks to develop a parks master plan. This will help us in the search for more funding opportunities. A video of the program is available at <https://nationalfitnesscampaign.com/video>

Washington Cities Insurance Authority grant could entirely pay for the demolition of the pool. The pool material would come close to filling the hole, but some fill would need to be imported to the spot to level it.

Wastewater Treatment Plant has an issue with an overgrowth of the Water Flea in our clarifying pool. This requires frequent attention to clear equipment. The water flea is used as the standard for clean water from effluent. If the water is clean enough for the water flea to survive it can be discharged into bodies of water. So it's a good problem to have. We're looking to bring in Bluegill, a freshwater fish in the sunfish family, to assist with our problem. Bluegill thrive on water fleas and create less waste than other fish. We will be the first municipality to attempt this. Cost should be between \$300-\$400 to purchase the fish at \$.75 each.

We need to redefine our legal definition for the the easement that allows us to discharge our effluent into the river, and complete a study and survey of the easement. This is being required by our State Department of Natural Resources. New vocabulary word, thalweg. The lowest point in a valley or riverbed.

Sidewalk project notices will be sent out to homeowners next week. Bid requests will go out soon after. Homeowners not included in our initial list have reached out to the city to be included in the project. We will be able to include them and any others.

Our Transportation Master Plan is being scored currently. This means we are selecting our consultants based on their bid applications. Keller and Assoc. and Morrison & Maierle are the two consultants being considered.

Outside Organizations: Councilmember Kolstad advised that the PTBA Councilmember Profitt advised SEWEDA met

Councilmember Evans advised that the EMS Council Councilmember Campbell attended the American Steamboat presentation regarding river boat traffic in Clarkston. Another boat will join for 2019. The City will want to explore options to convince them to remain at Port of Clarkston.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. WCIA Risk Reduction Grant Program Application Approval (Public Works) PWD

Poole explained grant to provide funds to reduce City risk. Motion by CAMPBELL/EVANS to apply for the grant. Motion Carried

B. 2018 WA FLAP Grant Application – Highland to Snake River Access (Public Works)

PWD Poole advised that due to the matching costs this would not be applied for at this time. Motion by MURRAY/KOLSTAD to table the grant application. Motion Carried

C. 2018 WA FLAP Grant Application – Chestnut Beach Access (Public Works) PWD

Poole explained grant to provide funds to provide a pedestrian/bike access to Chestnut Beach. Motion by CAMPBELL/EVANS to apply for the grant. Motion Carried

D. Solid Waste Interlocal Agreement modification of dates (Public Works) PWD Poole explained that the county needs approval to amend the dates of the current Interlocal agreement. Motion by CAMPBELL/EVANS to apply for the grant. Motion Carried

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilmember Campbell Profitt Evans

PRESS QUESTIONS: none

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT:
Meeting adjourned at 8:11p.m.

Steve Austin, City Clerk

Monika Lawrence, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures, 02/12/18	Ck # 65659-65760	\$180,758.43
Payroll 02/5/18	Ck# 65623-65656	\$298,926.29
2017 EOM Total Expenditures		\$539,233.68